



Together, we can save a life

Fact Sheet

Health and Safety Services

Health and Safety Programs

COURSE:	AED Essentials
Course Code:	3247
Purpose	To teach individuals the skills and knowledge needed to provide care for victims of sudden cardiac arrest through the safe use of an automated external defibrillator (AED).
Prerequisites	Current American Red Cross Adult CPR certificate or equivalent that has been issued within one year of course completion.
Learning Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Describe the abnormal heart rhythms commonly present during cardiac arrest;• Explain what defibrillation is and how it works;• Describe the cardiac chain of survival for a victim of cardiac arrest;• Explain the role of CPR in cardiac arrest;• Identify the general steps for the use of an AED;• Identify precautions for the use of an AED;• Identify special resuscitation situations that can arise when using an AED; and• Demonstrate how to use an AED in a cardiac arrest situation.
Length	Approximately 2 hours
Instructor	Currently authorized First Aid/CPR/AED, Workplace Training: Standard First Aid, First Aid: Responding to Emergencies, Sport Safety Training, Lifeguarding, Emergency Response or CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer instructor. Instructors must meet state qualifications where required.
Certification Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attend and participate in all course sessions;• Demonstrate competency in all required skills listed on the skills checklist;• Participate in all skills sessions and scenarios; and• Pass the final written exam with a score of 80 percent or better.
Certificate Issued and Validity Period	AED Essentials - 1 year
Participant Materials	<i>American Red Cross Lifeguard Training Participant's Manual</i> (Stock No. 655720); or <i>American Red Cross Adult CPR/AED Skills Card</i> (Stock No. 656559)